WHERE MONSTERS LIE™
Kyle Starks
Piotr Kowalski
Vladimir Popov
Joshua Reed

WHERE MONSTERS LIE™

WHERE MONSTERS LIE™

Written by
KYLE STARKS

Art by
PIOTR KOWALSKI

Colors by
VLADIMIR POPOV

Letters by
JOSHUA REED

Cover by
PIOTR KOWALSKI
with VLADIMIR POPOV

DARK HORSE BOOKS

President and Publisher
MIKE RICHARDSON

Editor
DANIEL CHABON

Assistant Editor
MISHA GEHR

Designer
LIN HUANG

Digital Art Technician
BETSY HOWITT

Neil Hankerson Executive Vice President | Tom Weddle Chief Financial Officer | Dale LaFountain Chief Information Officer | Tim Wiesch Vice President of Licensing | Vanessa Todd-Holmes Vice President of Production and Scheduling | Mark Bernardi Vice President of Book Trade and Digital Sales | Randy Lahrman Vice President of Product Development and Sales | Cara O'Neil Vice President of Marketing | Ken LizziGeneral Counsel | Dave Marshall Editor in Chief | Davey Estrada Editorial Director | Chris Warner Senior Books Editor | Cary Grazzini Director of Specialty Projects | Lia Ribacchi Creative Director | Michael Gombos Senior Director of Licensed Publications | Kari Yadro Director of Custom Programs | Kari Torson Director of International Licensing | Christina Niece Director of Scheduling

Published by Dark Horse Books
A division of Dark Horse Comics LLC
10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222

First edition: September 2023
Ebook ISBN 978-1-50673-422-4
Trade paperback ISBN 978-1-50673-420-0

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Printed in China

FSC
www.fsc.org
MIX
Paper from
responsible sources
FSC® C169962

Comic Shop Locator Service: comicshoplocator.com

WHERE MONSTERS LIE
Where Monsters Lie™ © 2023 Kyle Starks and Piotr Kowalski. Where Monsters Lie™ and all prominently featured characters are trademarks of Kyle Starks and Piotr Kowalski. Dark Horse Books® and the Dark Horse logo are registered trademarks of Dark Horse Comics LLC. All rights reserved. Dark Horse is part of Embracer Group. No portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the express written permission of Kyle Starks and Piotr Kowalski or Dark Horse Comics LLC. Names, characters, places, and incidents featured in this publication either are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, institutions, or locales, without satiric intent, is coincidental.

CHAPTER ONE

HEY WHERE ARE YOU GUYS GOING? WE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
WE GOTTA CALL THE COPS!
WE CAN GET HELP AT THIS HOUSE!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
HELP!
PLEASE OPEN THE DOOR!
HEY! OPEN UP!
DING DONG
OH MY.
WHERE DID YOU BOYS COME FROM?
BLAM BLAM BLAM
WE JUST BARELY ESCAPED AND WE NEED HELP, LADY. CAN YOU LET US IN?
THIS PSYCHO NEXT DOOR KIDNAPPED US!
HE'S KILLING THE OTHERS RIGHT NOW!
YOU SAY YOU ESCAPED FROM THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR?

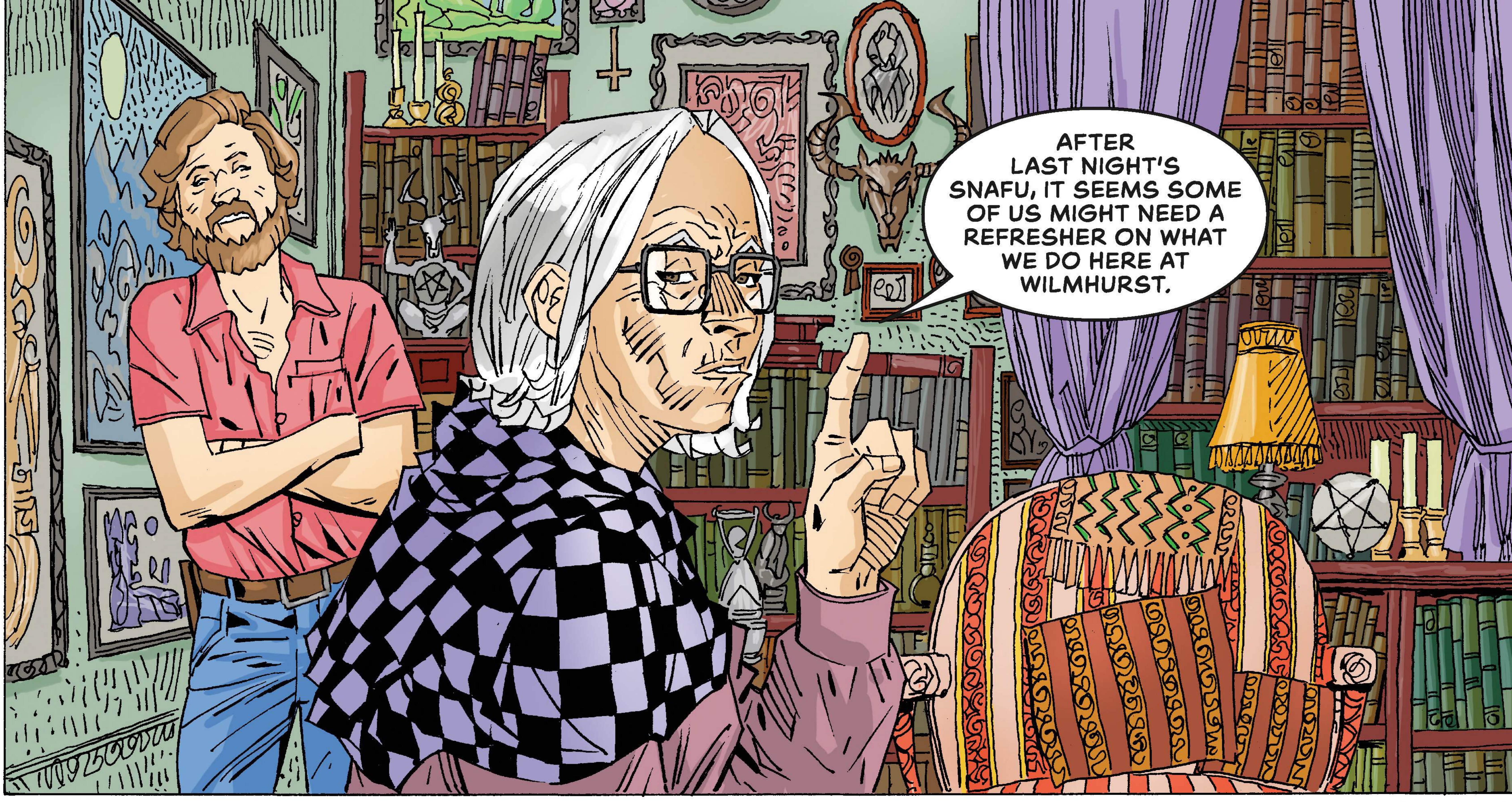
SPLEK
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, BOYS?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR A JOKE?

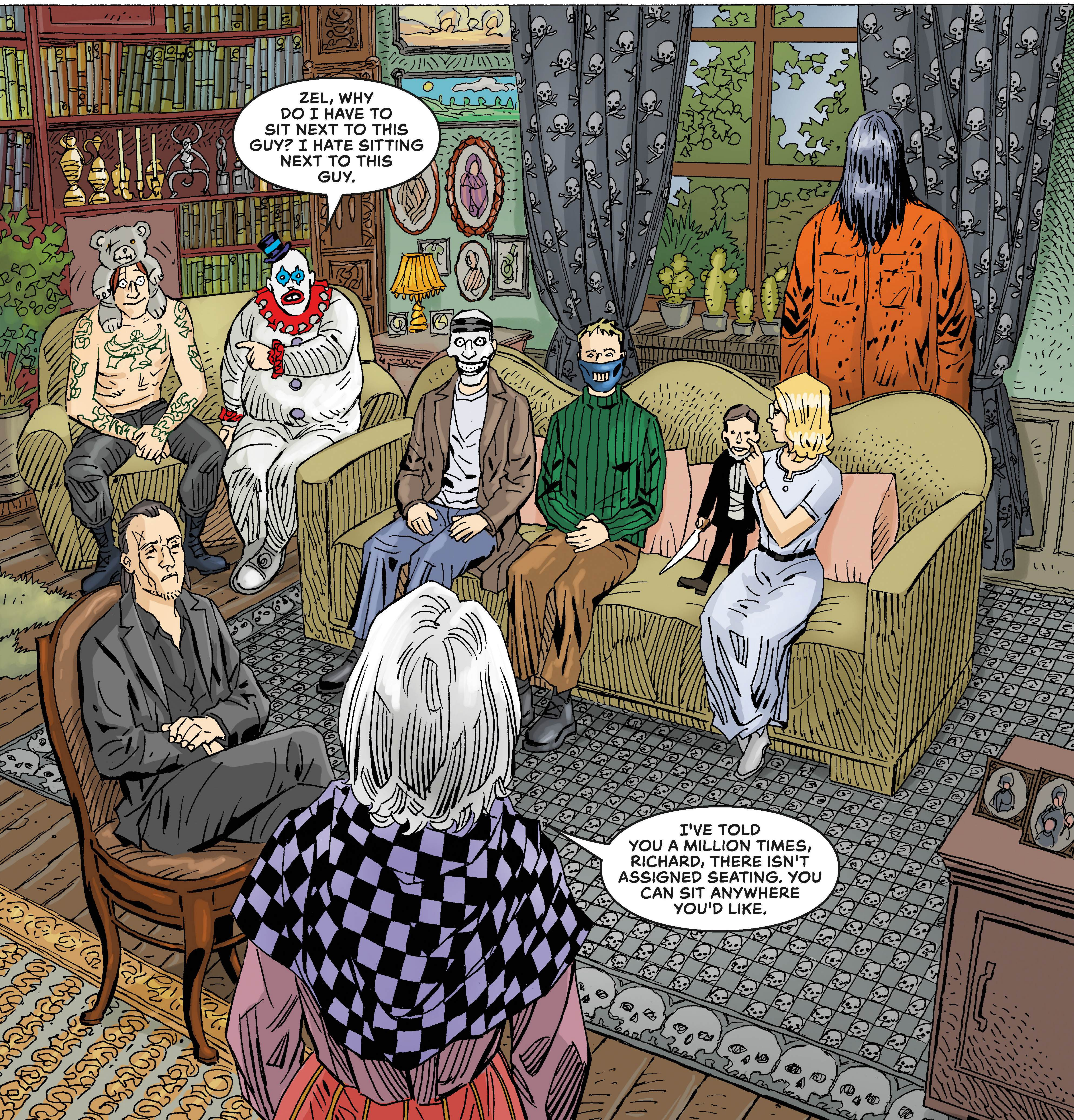
SLASH
CRACK

ZEL, ARE YOU OKAY? I HEARD GUN SHOTS.
I'M FINE, WYATT, THANK YOU.
SURROUNDED BY FOOLS BUT OTHERWISE FINE.
WHO SCREWED UP?
PROFESSOR PUZZLEMAN.
I HAVE SKIN TAGS WITH MORE SENSE THAN THAT DIPSHIT.
DO YOU THINK BAPHOMUTT CAN DEVOUR THIS MUCH MEAT?
FOR SURE.
I'LL HAVE DANIEL DAWSON HELP YOU WITH THE BODIES.
DID YOU GET THEM?
ARE THEY DEAD?
DON'T WORRY. I GOT THE REST.
THEY FAILED TO SOLVE MY PISTOL PUZZLE.

WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU, PUZZLEMAN?
YOU NEVER SHIT WHERE YOU EAT, YOU BUFFOON!
HEY!
IS THIS ALL OF THEM?
IS THIS ALL YOU LET GET AWAY?
WELCOME TO Wilmhurst A GATED COMMUNITY
"I THINK THAT'S ALL OF THEM, ZEL."
PRIVATE PROPERTY NO SOLICITING
NO TRESPASS
DEAD END
YOU THINK?
NO NO THAT'S ALL OF THEM.

"MANDATORY COMMUNITY MEETING TOMORROW."
"TELL EVERYONE!"


AFTER LAST NIGHT'S SNAFU, IT SEEMS SOME OF US MIGHT NEED A REFRESHER ON WHAT WE DO HERE AT WILMHURST.


ZEL, WHY DO I HAVE TO SIT NEXT TO THIS GUY? I HATE SITTING NEXT TO THIS GUY.
I'VE TOLD YOU A MILLION TIMES, RICHARD, THERE ISN'T ASSIGNED SEATING. YOU CAN SIT ANYWHERE YOU'D LIKE.

HE FREAKS ME OUT, MAN.
YEAH! HE'S THE FUCKMASTER!
THAT'S HIS WHOLE THING!
I SWEAR THESE JOKERS WILL BE THE DEATH OF ME.
AS YOU ALL *SHOULD* KNOW, WILMHURST IS A SANCTUARY.
A SAFE PLACE.
WE TAKE CARE OF YOU HERE. WE HELP PREPARE YOUR EXCURSIONS, WE BREAK YOU OUT OF JAIL, WE SHARPEN YOUR KNIVES. WE DRAG YOU AWAY WHEN IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE DEAD BEFORE THE AUTHORITIES ARRIVE.
WE ORDER YOUR SUPPLIES AND GROCERIES AND BRING THEM TO YOU SO SOMEONE DOESN'T FRIGHTEN THE TOWNSFOLK TRYING TO GET CORNDOGS AT THE LOCAL GROCERY.
HEY THAT ONLY HAPPENED ONCE. AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO? PEARL WANTED CORN DOGS.
MY FRANKY TAKES SUCH GOOD CARE OF ME!
WE SUPPLY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. WE HELP YOU INSTALL YOUR RIDICULOUS DEATHTRAPS BECAUSE WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO OTHERWISE?
CALL A LOCAL CONTRACTOR TO DIG YOUR RAZOR BLADE PIT? HIRE AN ELECTRICIAN TO WIRE YOUR FACE-SPLITTING MECHANISM?

WE SUPPLY PLACES TO LIVE IN BETWEEN YOUR SPREES AND WHAT DO WE ASK FOR IN RETURN?
WE ASK YOU TO SOW FEAR AND REAP SOULS.
AND THAT'S WHAT I DID! I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY I'M EATING SHIT OVER THIS.
BECAUSE THERE ARE RULES, PROFESSOR!
YOU DON'T KILL HERE, YOU *NEVER* DRAW ATTENTION TO WILMHURST, AND YOU DON'T KILL YOUR FELLOW RESIDENTS.
WELL, I WOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT IF YOU DIDN'T CANCEL MY LAST ASSIGNMENT.
AND YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SKIPPED OVER IF YOU HAD BROUGHT AN ACTUAL, DECENT PLAN, SIR.
YOU'VE LOST YOUR TOUCH, PROFESSOR. THE PUZZLE DESIGNS YOU BROUGHT WERE BULLSHIT, YOUR TRAPS CURIOUSLY PHALLIC-OBSESSED AND I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN NOT FATAL.
IT'S NOT OUR FAULT YOU'RE CREATIVELY SPENT AND YOUR ONLY PLAN NOW IS "DICK TRAPS."

WHAT DOES SHE MEAN BY "DICK TRAPS," PROFESSOR?
YOU KNOW WHAT? MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, PACKRAT.
ALSO, SINCE A LOT OF YOU WERE ASKING WHO WILL BE WORKING FRIDAY THE 13TH THIS YEAR, IT'S GOING TO BE DANIEL DAWSON AGAIN.
GROAN
I KNOW, I KNOW, BUT HE'S THE DEVIL'S FAVORITE SON, AND IT'S THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPIRIT COUNTY FAIR, AND IF YOU CAN BELIEVE IT, THEY'RE RUNNING IT AGAIN.
WHY WOULD THEY EVER HAVE A FAIR AGAIN AFTER WHAT DAWSON HAD DONE? EVERY TIME THEY HAVE ONE HE KILLS FIFTY PEOPLE.
SAINT JULIAN, IF I COULD UNDERSTAND PEOPLE AT ALL, I PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE SO PARTICIPATORY IN THEIR MURDER.
MEETING OVER.
THERE'S DANISH AND COFFEE IN THE FOYER. TAKE IT WITH YOU SO I DON'T HAVE TO CLEAN IT UP.
HEY, ZEL, CAN I TALK TO YOU REAL QUICK?
I WAS THINKING ABOUT MY NEXT EXCURSION, RIGHT?
AND WHAT IF I BROUGHT A FLAMETHROWER INTO THE MIX?
A FLAMETHROW--?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, RICHARD?

BURNING DEATHS ARE FUCKED UP. CLOWNS ARE FUCKED UP.
IT'S LIKE NIGHTMARE MURDER CHOCOLATE AND PEANUT BUTTER!
CAN YOU IMAGINE ANYTHING MORE MESSED UP THAN A CLOWN WITH A FLAME-THROWER?
GETTING DIARRHEA IN A TRAFFIC JAM.
WHAT?
I DON'T THINK SO, RICHARD.
STICK WITH WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE.
YOU'RE A CLOWN. DO CLOWN STUFF. WE'LL GET YOU SOME POISON POPCORN OR SOMETHING.
YEAH, BUT--
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CHOSE TO BE A CLOWN, RICHARD.
MAN, NO ONE CHOOSES TO BE A CLOWN!

THEY'RE ALL CHILDREN, WYATT!
WILMHURST ONCE HOUSED STONE COLD PROFESSIONALS AND NOW IT'S A DAYCARE FOR ENTITLED DINGBATS.
WHAT AN EMBARRASSING WORLD THIS HAS BECOME.
SPEAKING OF CHILDREN, I'M MEETING MY DAUGHTER FOR LUNCH THIS WEEKEND IN THE CITY.
HOW IS THE DEAR GIRL?
I THINK SHE'S SEEING SOMEONE SHE DOESN'T WANT ME TO KNOW ABOUT.
YOU KNOW I USED TO BE HEAD OF THE GREATEST MURDER FAMILY OF ALL TIME, AND NOW I'M AN ERRAND BOY TO MONSTERS.
DID YOU EVER THINK YOU'D END UP HERE, ZEL?
RICHARD!
I CAN SEE YOUR TRASHCANS! THAT'S AN HOA VIOLATION!
IT'S A FINEABLE OFFENSE, RICHARD!

SEE? THEY'RE ALL IDIOTS!
NOW WHAT'S THIS PROBLEM WITH FUCKMASTER?
HE'S BEEN ORDERING NEW AXES, LAWNMOWERS, CHAINSAWS, AND SO ON.
REAL STATE OF THE ART STUFF.
FRANKLY, I WAS PRETTY EXCITED, I THOUGHT HE HAD A PRETTY NASTY PLAN LINED UP FOR HIS NEXT EXCURSION.
BUT--
BUT WHAT? SPIT IT OUT, WYATT.
"HE'S LOST HIS BLOODLUST, ZEL. HE'S NOT A KILLER ANYMORE.
"HE WAS ORDERING ALL THAT STUFF BECAUSE HE'S REALLY TAKEN TO LAWNCARE."
I GUESS ALL THE LITTLE CUTS, THE GRASS GETTING CLIPPED, THE PRUNING, IT ALL FULFILLS THE SAME PART OF HIM THAT USED TO LIKE SLICING UP TEENAGERS IN THE WOODS.
I NOTICED IT A COUPLE WEEKS BACK BUT THOUGHT HE WAS MAYBE JUST HAVING AN OFF WEEK.

YOU'RE CERTAIN?
I BEEN KILLING FOLKS ALL MY LIFE, AND I CAN TELL IF SOMEONE'S GOT IT OR NOT. AND HE DON'T ANYMORE.
HE'S GONE SOFTER THAN A KITTEN'S BELLY FUR.
DAMN IT. HE WAS ONE OF OUR TOP GUYS.
THIS IS SO UNPRECEDENTED I'M NOT CERTAIN WHAT PROTOCOL EVEN WOULD BE.
I'D BE MORE THAN WILLING TO GIVE UP MY GROUNDSKEEPING DUTIES BUT THAT DOESN'T HELP WITH THE MURDER QUOTA.
AND HERE'S THE OTHER PROBLEM.
GRANDPA MURDER?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS!
THAT OTHER HOME WAS INFESTED WITH FLEAS.

FLEAS?
YOU'RE KIDDING ME.
YOUR BOYS LIVE IN-BETWEEN THE WALLS COVERED IN FILTH AND THEIR OWN SHIT, AND YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT FLEAS?
FIRSTLY, SIR, I WOULD PREFER IF YOU DID NOT MAKE UNTOWARD ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE DEFECATORY PRACTICES OF MY KIN.
SECONDLY, IT IS QUITE CLEAR NEITHER OF YOU HAVE EVER SUFFERED THE ILLIMITABLE ONSLAUGHT OF FLEAS, OR YOU WOULD NOT MINIMIZE THIS PLIGHT.
IS THAT YOUR NEPHEW?
YOU BROUGHT YOUR NEPHEW HERE?!
YOU THINK SO LITTLE OF ME THAT YOU BELIEVE I WOULD ABSCOND FROM THAT VILE DOMICILE AND LEAVE MY OWN BLOOD TO SUFFER ALONE?
I ALREADY INFORMED YOU IT WAS TEEMING WITH VERMIN!
DANIEL DAWSON IS HERE UNTIL THE 13TH, NORRIS. YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO THAT YOU CAN'T HAVE TWO SHAPES IN THE SAME AREA.
THEY'LL TEAR EACH OTHER APART!

WELL, YOU KEEP YOUR BOY IN YOUR HOUSE AND I'LL KEEP MINE IN MINE.
YOU'RE GOING TO CONTROL *THIS* WILD HEATHEN?
HE'S GOING TO BE RUNNING AROUND IN THE NIGHT SWINGING AROUND THAT CRUDDY OLD CHAINSAW AND MOANING.
I KNOW THIS CHILD.
YOU DO NOT FRET, ZEL.
UNLIKE YOU, I HAVE NO CONCERNS IN MY CAPACITY TO MANAGE MY KIN'S BEHAVIOR.
NEPHEW IS A FINE, OBEDIENT BOY WHO TAKES A DEEP PLEASURE IN FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS OF HIS ELDERS.
THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE, NORRIS!
FLEAS ARE UNACCEPTABLE! GOD-BLAMED MOSQUITOS OF THE CARPET! A BLIGHT ON THIS EARTH!
BOYS, START RUNNING THE OATMEAL BATHS!
YOUR DEAR OLD GRANDPAPPY IS GONNA CLAW HIMSELF TO DEATH OVER THIS ABHORRENT PULICOSIS.
I HATE HILLBILLY CANNIBALS *SO* MUCH.
YUUUP.

LINUS MERRIWEATHER? I'M SPECIAL AGENT CONNOR HAYES. I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE FOR YOU BEING STUCK HERE SO LONG.
A FEW PHRASES IN YOUR REPORT WERE FLAGGED BY THE DATABASE MEANING THEY HAVE TO CONTACT ME.
I SPECIALIZE IN A VERY SPECIFIC TYPE OF CRIME AND WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE TODAY'S EVENTS MAY FALL INTO THAT CATEGORY.
YOU SAY IN YOUR REPORT THAT YOU WERE WALKING ALONG MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS WHEN NEXT THING YOU KNOW YOU, QUOTE...
...WOKE UP IN A FUCKED UP TORTURE BASEMENT HANDCUFFED TO SEVERAL OTHERS BY A, QUOTE, DUDE WHO LOOKS LIKE IF A MUMMY WAS INTO *BDSM?*
THAT'S RIGHT.
WE BELIEVE YOUR EXPERIENCE TODAY MAY HAVE PUT YOU IN LINE WITH THE PUZZLE MAN MURDERER. YOU MAY HAVE HEARD ABOUT THEM ON THE NEWS.
OH, IT WAS DEFINITELY HIM BUT THIS DUDE SAID HIS NAME WAS PUZZLEMAN NOT PUZZLE MAN.
PUZZLEMAN? REALLY?
THAT GUY NEVER SHUTS UP, BRO. PUZZLE THIS, PUZZLE THAT. PUZZLEMAN'S GONNA PUZZLE YOUR ASS OR WHATEVER.

BASED ON PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS, HE HAS SURELY FLED THE SCENE BY NOW, BUT WE'D LIKE YOU TO GIVE US DIRECTIONS TO THE LOCATION WHERE THESE EVENTS UNFOLDED.
YOU WANT ME TO SHOW YOU WHERE THE OTHER ONES WERE TOO?
"OTHER ONES"? WHAT OTHER ONES?
THE ONES WHO KILLED THE OTHER DUDES. THEY ALL CAME OUT OF THEIR HOUSES TO MESS THOSE GUYS UP.
THE OLD LADY, THE LADY WITH THE DOLL AND THE BIG DUDE.
HEY, MAN, YOU OKAY?
HOW BIG WOULD SAY THIS BIG GUY WAS?
LIKE IF YOU WERE A TRIPLET AND IF YOU ALL SAID A MAGIC WORD AT ONCE AND THE THREE OF YOU MERGED TOGETHER TO MAKE A BIGGER DUDE.
DID HE HAVE PITCH BLACK HAIR THAT COVERED HIS FACE?
YEAH, MAN. THAT'S RIGHT.
HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT?

I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW THAT OLD COW TALKS TO ME! THAT'S A GOOD WAY TO FIND YOURSELF IN A MURDER TRAP!
I'D BE CAREFUL HOW YOU SPOKE OF ZEL. AFTER ALL, YOU DID BRING THIS ON YOURSELF. YOU ***DID*** BREAK THE RULES.
Who can solve the Puzzle Murders?
HEY, SAINT JULIAN, THEORETICALLY, ASKING FOR A FRIEND, DID YOU EVER HAVE ANYONE GET AWAY FROM YOU?
ONCE.
BUT ONLY ONCE.
RIGHT AS I WAS ABOUT TO GO TO WORK ON THIS KID'S FACE THEY STRUCK ME WITH A LAMP AND GOT AWAY.
SOME OF THEM EVEN PREFER TO LET ONE SURVIVE, YOU KNOW.
A FINAL GIRL TO STOKE THE FLAMES OF FEAR.
HEY DO YOU SEE THOSE LIGHTS? ARE THOSE POLICE LIGHTS?
HERE IS WHAT I WOULD SAY TO YOUR THEORETICAL FRIEND--

"--IF ONE OF YOUR VICTIM'S ESCAPED, I WOULD NOT BE TOO CONCERNED.
POLICE
POLICE
POLICE

"RARELY DOES ANYTHING COMES OF IT."
POLICE
Stay Away
DON'T COME IN

CHAPTER TWO

HOLY SHIT! THE WHOLE PLACE IS SWARMING WITH POLICE, SAINT JULIAN.
POLICE
POLIC
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
ISN'T IT CLEAR, MY DEAR PUZZLEMAN?
"WE'RE GOING TO KILL A BUNCH OF COPS."

TWENTY YEARS AGO.
YOU DID AN EXCELLENT GOOD JOB TODAY, DANIEL DAWSON.
WELCOME TO
THE DEVIL WILL BE VERY PROUD OF YOU.
KID'S NAME IS CONNOR HAYES. SAW HIS MOM AND SISTER MURDERED TODAY ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE.
CHRIST, THE POOR KID.
ANY CHANCE HE SAY WHO DID THIS?
SAYS IT WAS SOME BIG GUY NAMED DANIEL DAWSON.
DANIEL DAWSON?
ISN'T THAT THE NAME OF THE KID WHO GOT THROWN OFF THE ROLLERCOASTERS HERE TWENTY YEARS AGO?

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO.
THERE'S A KILLER IN THE ORPHANAGE. WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!
WE CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT CONNOR. DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS?
CRASH
YOU PREPOSTEROUS IMP!
SHIT, LOOK AT THAT KID RUN.
I'LL NEVER CATCH HIM.

EARLIER TODAY.
MR. MERRIWEATHER, YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE ME TO WHERE YOU WERE KIDNAPPED AND SAW THESE PEOPLE KILLED.
WHAT?
NO WAY, MAN!
YOU CAN'T MAKE ME GO BACK THERE, MAN! PEOPLE ARE GETTING KILLED OUT THERE!
WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE?
NOT ANYMORE.
THIS SITUATION IS NOW OFFICIALLY IN GOVERNMENT JURISDICTION.
ALL YOU MEN WORK FOR ME NOW.

HEY, BABE! I HAVE SOME EXCITING NEWS SO I'M MAKING A SPECIAL DINNER TO CELEBRATE WITH MY SPECIAL FIANCÉ!
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PUT THAT ON HOLD, BABE.
IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT, CONNOR?
MISSING GIRL
IT WILL BE WHEN I'M FINISHED.
WHICH HOUSE WAS WHICH?
PUZZLEMAN WAS THE HOUSE ON THE END AND THE OLD LADY IN THE ONE NEXT TO IT.
ALRIGHT, PUT HIM BACK IN THE CAR.
THAT'S IT? YOU BROUGHT ME OUT HERE FOR THAT?
YOU'RE GOING TO GET ME KILLED OUT HERE FOR THAT?
I NEEDED AN EYEWITNESS TO MAKE THIS ALL LEGAL. PROBABLE CAUSE TO ENTER THE HOMES.
MAN, I DON'T THINK THAT'S HOW IT WORKS.

START AT THE FIRST HOUSE AND MAKE YOUR WAY AROUND.
REMEMBER, STAY IN GROUPS, NEVER SPLIT UP AND TREAT EACH BUILDING LIKE IT HOUSES A SERIAL KILLER *OR WORSE.*
WHAT'S WORSE THAN A SERIAL KILLER?
HORNY RAPIST GORILLA.
JESUS.
NO ONE'S HERE. LET'S MOVE TO THE NEXT ONE.
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE STEPPING, BROTHER!
YOU'RE GONNA CRUSH THEM GLADIOLAS!
MY WIFE WOULD HAVE SEX WITH ME MORE THAN ONCE A YEAR FOR A GARDEN LIKE THIS.
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK

OH MY GOSH, FRANKY, WE GOT VISITORS AND THE HOUSE IS A MESS.
WHAT'S UP WITH THE DOLL?
PUT HER IN THE CAR.
WHAT'RE WE SUPPOSED TO DO WITH THIS?
THIS WAY, MA'AM.
OH, I WOULDN'T DO THAT. FRANKY DOESN'T LIKE THAT.
CAN I HELP YOU, OFFICERS?
WE NEED TO TAKE A LITTLE LOOK AROUND YOUR PLACE.
YOU THREE HEAD TO THE MAIN HOUSE. I'LL HANDLE THIS ONE.
HE *JUST* TOLD US NOT TO SPLIT UP!

WELL, ARE YOU COMING IN OR NOT?
DO YOU WANT TO JOIN ME IN MY SECRET PANIC ROOM WE SHOULD BE--
IT'S NO TIME FOR COWARDICE, MY GOOD MAN. THERE IS BLOODSHED TO BE HAD.
YOU LIVE ALONE HERE, SIR?
IS THERE ANYONE ELSE IN THE BUILDING?
KRASHACK
SPLURSH

WATCH YOUR HEAD, MA'AM.
HEY YOU CAN'T PUT HER IN HERE WITH ME SHE'S--
I'M WHAT?
DANGEROUS?
I GUESS I AM. BUT I DIDN'T USED TO BE.
I USED TO BE A SURVIVOR.
HE KILLED EVERYONE I KNEW. ALL MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS. I GOT AWAY WHEN I HIT HIM WITH A TRUCK BUT HE CAME BACK.
NO MATTER WHAT I DID TO HIM HE JUST KEPT COMING BACK OVER AND OVER NEVER GIVING UP AND I REALIZED AFTER AWHILE THAT'S LOVE.
THAT'S TRUE LOVE.
WH-WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

MY FRANKY, OF COURSE.

ARE WE SUPPOSED TO WAIT ON THIS G-MAN BEFORE WE GO IN, OR WHAT?
POLICE
THIS IS AN ORGANIZATIONAL NIGHTMARE. A REAL HALF-ASSED JOB.
CHUNK
CHUNK
SWISH
SP-MORT
WOW. THAT WAS REALLY IMPRESSIVE, JULIAN.
FUCK OFF, PACKRAT.

DON'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY.
I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU.
OH, YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
I SAW YOU TWENTY YEARS AGO AT THE SPIRIT LAKE COUNTY FAIR.
AND THEN I SAW YOU AGAIN A COUPLE YEARS AGO IN SOME CROWD PHOTOS IN RELATION TO A SERIES OF HIT AND RUNS WHERE THE CAR DIDN'T HAVE A DRIVER.
IN FACT, I STARTED SEEING YOU IN A LOT OF PHOTOS RELATED TO A LOT OF UNUSUAL CRIMES.
I FOUND THIS PARTICULARLY INTERESTING.
TURNS OUT YOU RAN A PRETTY DANGEROUS MOTEL IN THE SIXTIES.
YOU HAVEN'T AGED A DAY.
THAT'S HEALTHY LIVING FOR YOU.
I KNOW THERE ARE ACTUAL MONSTERS IN THE WORLD.
I SAW ONE AT SPIRIT LAKE AND ANOTHER GAVE ME THIS WHEN I WAS TWELVE.

EVER SINCE THEN I'VE SPENT MY LIFE BUILDING MY BODY AND MIND INTO SOMETHING GREATER THAN A MONSTER.
I TRAINED MY BODY TO PEAK PERFORMANCE.
I'VE MADE MYSELF A HUMAN WEAPON.
I'VE STUDIED THE PARANORMAL ALONG WITH MILITARY TACTICS AND ADVANCED DETECTIVE TECHNIQUES.
I'M THE LEADING SPECIALIST IN CASES THAT ARE UNEXPLAINABLE AND UNBELIEVABLE--
--HAUNTED DOLLS, ECCENTRIC PUZZLE KILLERS, UNSTOPPABLE JUGGERNAUTS, RITUAL SORORITY HOUSE MASSACRES, A VIDEO TAPE THAT KILLS PEOPLE.
YES, YES, I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, SPECIAL AGENT CONNOR HAYES.
MASSACRE VICTIM BECOMES SPECIAL AGENT MONSTER HUNTER.
VERY IMPRESSIVE.
WHAT'S WRONG, DEAR? ARE YOU SURPRISED I KNOW WHO YOU ARE?
WE LIKE TO KEEP CLOSE TABS ON ALL OUR FINAL GIRLS.
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT USE THEY MIGHT SERVE.

THANKS FOR GETTING THE DOOR, FRANKY. AND THEY SAY CHIVALRY IS DEAD.
HI, FRIEND! WOULD YOU LIKED TO GET STABBED TODAY?
I MOST CERTAINLY WOULD NOT!
WE GOT OFFICERS DOWN!
BLAM
HEY, MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
POLICE
SHOTS FIRED! SHOTS FIRED!
WE GOT PERPS! TAKE THEM DOWN!
BLAM
BLAM
POLI
BLAM BLAM BLAM
THIS IS IT.
MY MOMENT TO SHINE.

BLAM BLAM BLAM
I'M OUT OF HERE!
WHAT IS ALL THIS, MAN?
GROWLLL

HELL NO!
FUCK THAT
ICE
POLICE
HEY EVERYONE CHECK THIS OUT!
FWSSSHHHH

DANIEL DAWSON PARTICULARLY LIKES TO LET ONE GET AWAY. HE JUST LOVES A REUNION.
AND WHERE IS DANIEL? I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO HIM TOO.
I DIDN'T FIGURE YOU FOR THE SUICIDAL TYPE, AGENT HAYES.
YOU DON'T THINK I CAN STOP HIM?
DID YOU BRING A TANK?
NOTHING SHORT OF TEARING HIM APART WILL STOP HIM.
AND HE DOES NOT TEAR EASILY.

WHY DID YOU COME HERE, AGENT HAYES? TO PROVE THAT YOU AREN'T THE COWARD WHO RAN AND HID?
I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT COWERING IN AN OUTHOUSE WHILE YOUR MOTHER AND SISTER DIE IS NOT THE ORIGIN OF A HERO.
I THINK WHEN YOU COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH THESE MONSTERS, YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF WANTING.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
ALL THE TRAINING, ALL THE PREPARATIONS?
IT **WAS** OUT OF FEAR.
BUT I MET A WOMAN. AND NOW WHAT I DO HERE TONIGHT I DO IT TO MAKE THIS WORLD SAFE FOR HER.
NOTHING WILL GET BETWEEN ME AND A BETTER WORLD FOR HER.
NOT HELLFIRE, NOT A PSYCHOPATH WITH A MACHETE, NOT MURDEROUS MONSTERS.
I'M GOING TO UNLEASH A HELL TONIGHT NONE OF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH.
I'M GOING TO ROUND YOU ALL UP AND PUT YOU IN THE GROUND.
YOU AREN'T THE HUNTERS TODAY.
YOU'RE NOT THE MONSTERS HERE.
I AM.

BLAM
BLAMBLAM
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
YOU STAY HERE. WE'RE NOT FINISHED YET.
FWISSSHHH
TIME TO GO, ZEL.

ICE
ICE

WHAT THE HELL?

CHAPTER THREE

IT'S A WAR ZONE BACK THERE.
I KNEW WILMHURST WOULDN'T REMAIN A SECRET FOREVER BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT IT'S TIME TO BE CUT SHORT BY THAT IDIOT PROFESSOR PUZZLEMAN BRINGING THE DAMNED COPS TO OUR DOOR.
ONCE WE GET OUTSIDE OF TOWN I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TO GO AHEAD AND SET OFF THE EXPLOSIVES WE PLANTED IN ALL THE HOUSES.
YOU THINK THAT'S REALLY NECESSARY?
LAW ENFORCEMENT IS GOING TO DESCEND ON THIS PLACE, WYATT. EVERY BUILDING IN THERE IS PROOF OF OUR EXISTENCE.
IT'S ALL INCRIMINATING. IT'S ALL EVIDENCE. IT ALL HAS TO GO.
I HAVE TO GO TO LET BAPHOMUTT OUT THEN.
I CAN'T BLOW UP THE TOWN WITH HER STUCK IN A CAGE.
POLICE

FOLKS, I NEED YOU TO GO BACK. NO ONE'S ALLOWED OUT.
POLICE
OH, OFFICER, IT'S A NIGHTMARE BACK THERE! WITH THE BAD MEN AND THE SHOOTING!
IT'S NOT SAFE!
MA'AM, I UNDERSTAND, BU--
BLAM
YOU'VE GONE SOFT IN YOUR OLD AGE, WYATT, BUT THIS IS NO TIME FOR WEAKNESS.
BLOW IT UP AND WE'LL MEET AT THE RENDEZVOUS SPOT.

WHAT THE HELL?
TWO EARS ARE BETTER THAN ONE.
FOUR EARS ARE A LOT OF FUN.
SIX EARS ARE A COLLECTION.

HISSS...
KRA-KOW
GRRRRROWL
THERE YOU GO, GIRL. BE SAFE OUT THERE.
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH FUCKMASTER? WHY'S HE HIDING IN HIS SHED? WHY AIN'T HE HELPING US?
CUZ HE'S A GODDAMN PUSSY.
BLAM BLAM BLAM
YOU'VE SEEN HOW HE IS. ALL HE CARES ABOUT IS PLAYING WITH HIS LITTLE PLANTS NOW.
I'M OUT OF BULLETS, SWEETHEART. I'M GOING TO FLANK THEM!

I KNEW THIS FLAMETHROWER WAS A GREAT IDEA!
BLAM
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU?
YOU CAN'T PLAY AROUND WITH THESE GUYS.
EAT SHIT, COPPER!
GRAB

FRANKY!!!
YOU THINK THAT'S GONNA STOP ME? HUH?
YOU THINK A LITTLE FIRE IS GOING TO STOP FRANKY RUBBERDICK?
BLAM

FRANKY!!!
MY BABY!
WAS THAT SO HARD?
SLICE

YOU!
MAN, WHAT EVEN IS THIS PLACE?
THIS SHIT IS CRAZY.
I JUST GOT STABBED BY SOME SORT OF DOLL, BRO.
UNTIL HE KICKED IT INTO THE AIR, I THOUGHT IT WAS A CRAZY LITTLE KID.
I WAS LIKE, "DID THAT DUDE JUST KICK A BABY INTO THE AIR?"

THIS DOLL STAB WOUND IS KILLING ME, MAN.
HEY AT LEAST YOU DIDN'T GET BURNED ALIVE LIKE DAN.
GOD DAMN THIS PLACE!
YOU HEAR THAT?
SOUNDED LIKE SOMEONE CRYING OUT IN PAIN.

RUN TUGGA TUGGA
OH, WHAT THE HELL NOW?
THAT MAN HAS A TEDDY ON HIS HEAD.
OH HELL NO!
RUGGA TUGGA TUGGA

AROO?
NEPHEW, I MUST STRONGLY PROTEST THAT IMPULSE. I DO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE ERRONEOUS TO EXIT OUR DOMICILE AT THIS TIME.
WHAT I PROPOSE IS WE PRACTICE THE TIME-HONORED TRADITION OF MINDING OUR OWN DAMN BUSINESS.
IT LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT FINALLY BE SAFE OUT THERE--
GROWL
AW, COME ON, MAN!
HEY, YOU!
FREEZE!
PUT YOUR HANDS UP!

FREEZE?
YOU GUYS KNOW ME. I RODE IN THE CAR WITH YOU HERE.
YEAH, YOU LED US HERE. FOR ALL WE KNOW YOU'RE WITH THESE PSYCHOS. THAT YOU PLANNED THIS WHOLE THING AS A TRAP.
YOU GUYS MADE ME COME BACK HERE!
LISTEN, EVERYONE THAT'S POPPED OUT HERE HAS TRIED TO KILL US--WE'RE JUST NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES.
IS THIS BECAUSE I'M BLACK?
BECAUSE ENOUGH FUCKED UP STUFF HAS HAPPENED TODAY, WE DON'T NEED THAT BULLSHIT TOO.
MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST SHOOT HIM. JUST TO BE SAFE?
DAMN, BRYAN!
GROWL

CRUNCH
AHHHHH!

HOLY SHIT THAT'S A BIG DOG.
WHY IS THAT DOG SO BIG?
SNORT
NO, BIG DOG! LEAVE ME ALONE!
SLAM

HELLO? IS SOMEONE HE--?
WHAT ARE *YOU* DOING HERE?
HOLY SHIT. YOU GOT ME IN SO MUCH TROUBLE, MAN.
AND NOW YOU'RE BACK? IT'S LIKE IT'S MEANT TO BE.
WE'RE GOING TO DO SO MANY FUCKED-UP PUZZLES.
MAN, FUCK EVERY SINGLE THING ABOUT MY LIFE.

YOU KNOW WHY WE LOVE THE KNIFE?
BECAUSE ALL OF YOU ARE JUST MEAT TO US. YOUR HOPES, YOUR DREAMS, YOUR FAMILY, YOUR LIVES MEAN NOTH--
YOU CAN HOLD THE CREEP MONOLOGUE.
YOU AREN'T GOING TO SCARE ME.

REALLY? BECAUSE I SCARED YOU ONCE BEFORE.
YOU DON'T THINK I RECOGNIZE MY OWN HANDIWORK, BOY WHO RAN?
WHEN I WAS LITTLE, I SAW A TOWN AND MY FAMILY KILLED BY A MANIAC. THEN I SAW YOU KILL EVERYONE AT THE ORPHANAGE AND I THOUGHT THIS MUST BE WHAT LIFE IS.
JUST A SERIES OF BAD THINGS HAPPENING.
BUT I REALIZED IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THAT WAY. WE DON'T HAVE TO LET BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO US.
WE CAN BE THE BAD THING THAT HAPPENS TO BAD THINGS.
SO, NO, YOU DON'T SCARE ME. AND YOU KNOW WHY?
BECAUSE THE LITERAL FIRST THING THEY TEACH YOU IN SELF-DEFENSE IS HOW TO STOP A KNIFE ATTACK.

YOU SHOULD'VE NEVER STOPPED RUNNING, PIG!
SNATCH
TWIST
CHUNK
NOW I SEE WHY YOU AND YOUR TYPE PREY ON TEENAGERS AND SORORITY GIRLS.
BECAUSE YOU'RE ALL PATHETIC.

I REALLY THOUGHT WIPING YOU MONSTERS OUT WAS GOING TO BE A CHALLENGE.

CHAPTER FOUR

ARE YOU READY FOR A PUZZLE, LINUS MERRIWEATHER?
YO, MAN, IS THIS A GUILLOTINE ON MY DICK?
HAND
DICK

IN FIVE MINUTES THAT CONTAINER WILL FILL WITH WATER AND IN LESS THAN A MINUTE AFTER YOU WILL DROWN--
THIS ISN'T A PUZZLE, MAN! THIS IS TORTURE!
WHAT? NO, IT'S NOT TORTURE. IT'S A PUZZLE!
lube
NOW I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU TWO OPTIONS--
THAT'S NOT A PUZZLE, EITHER! THAT'S JUST A CHOICE!
WHEN I GIVE YOU THE OPTIONS YOU WILL BE QUITE BEFUDDLED AT WHICH TO CHOOSE AND THUS IT'S A PUZZLE!
THAT'S LITERALLY THE DEFINITION OF A PUZZLE!
WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO RUIN THIS FOR ME, DUDE?
NOW, HERE'S THE GOOD PART. IF YOU CHOOSE BEFORE THE WATER FILLS THE RECEPTACLE YOU WILL BE SET FREE.

CHOICE ONE, YOU LOSE YOUR DOMINANT LEFT HAND.
CHOICE TWO, YOUR PENIS IS SEVERED.
BUT HOW WILL YOU BE ABLE TO MAKE SUCH A DECISION BEFORE YOU DROWN?
IT'S AN IMPOSSIBLE QUANDARY! AN UNBEATABLE PUZZLE!
HAND
DICK
SLAP
VREEEEEER
UNLOCK
HAND
DICK

HEY! COME BACK!
YOU CHOSE TOO FAST!
ALRIGHT NOW, MURDER NEPHEW, IT APPEARS THE BEDLAM OUT THERE HAS SUBSISTED.
WHY DON'T YOU MOSEY OUT THERE AND PROCURE SOME OF THAT GOOD HUMAN FLESH-TYPE EATING?
AROO??
BE MINDFUL NOT TO CROSS PATHS WITH THAT DANIEL DAWSON NOW.
YOU KNOW YOU TWO CAN'T BE ALLOWED WITHIN EITHER'S PERIMETER LEST YOU BE DRAWN INTO A MINDLESS, MURDEROUS RAGE WHICH CAN ONLY BE SATED BY THE OTHERS DEMISE.
AROO.
YOUR OLD LADY FRIEND THINKS I CAME OUT HERE TO PROVE I WASN'T A COWARD.
BUT I DIDN'T COME OUT HERE BECAUSE I'M SCARED.

I CAME OUT HERE BECAUSE I'M SCARY.
YOU KILLED MY FAMILY AND HUNDREDS OF OTHERS AND TONIGHT I'M KILLING YOU, YOU SON OF A BITCH!
I SPENT THE LAST FIFTEEN YEARS BUILDING MY BODY AND MIND INTO A DEADLY WEAPON.
I MASTERED FOUR MARTIAL ARTS, ONE OF WHICH SPECIALIZES IN USING A LARGER OPPONENT'S BODY AGAINST THEM AND ANOTHER THAT--
--FOCUSES ON DESTROYING JOINTS.
SNAP

OH, SHIT!
WHOMP

RUN-DIGGA-DIGGA-DIGGA
HOW HAS THIS GUY LOST THIS MUCH BLOOD AND NOT PASSED OUT YET?
A TEXT FROM WYATT?
"GOING TO BLOW UP THE VILLAGE. NERVOUS FACE EMOJI. IF YOU'RE STILL ALIVE I SUGGEST YOU MOVE YOUR ASS."
HEY, PUZZLEMAN!
I GOT A PUZZLE FOR YOU!
WHY DID THE ESCAPED TORTURE VICTIM NOT RUN AWAY?
THAT'S A RIDDLE NOT A PUZZLE. YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME TO--

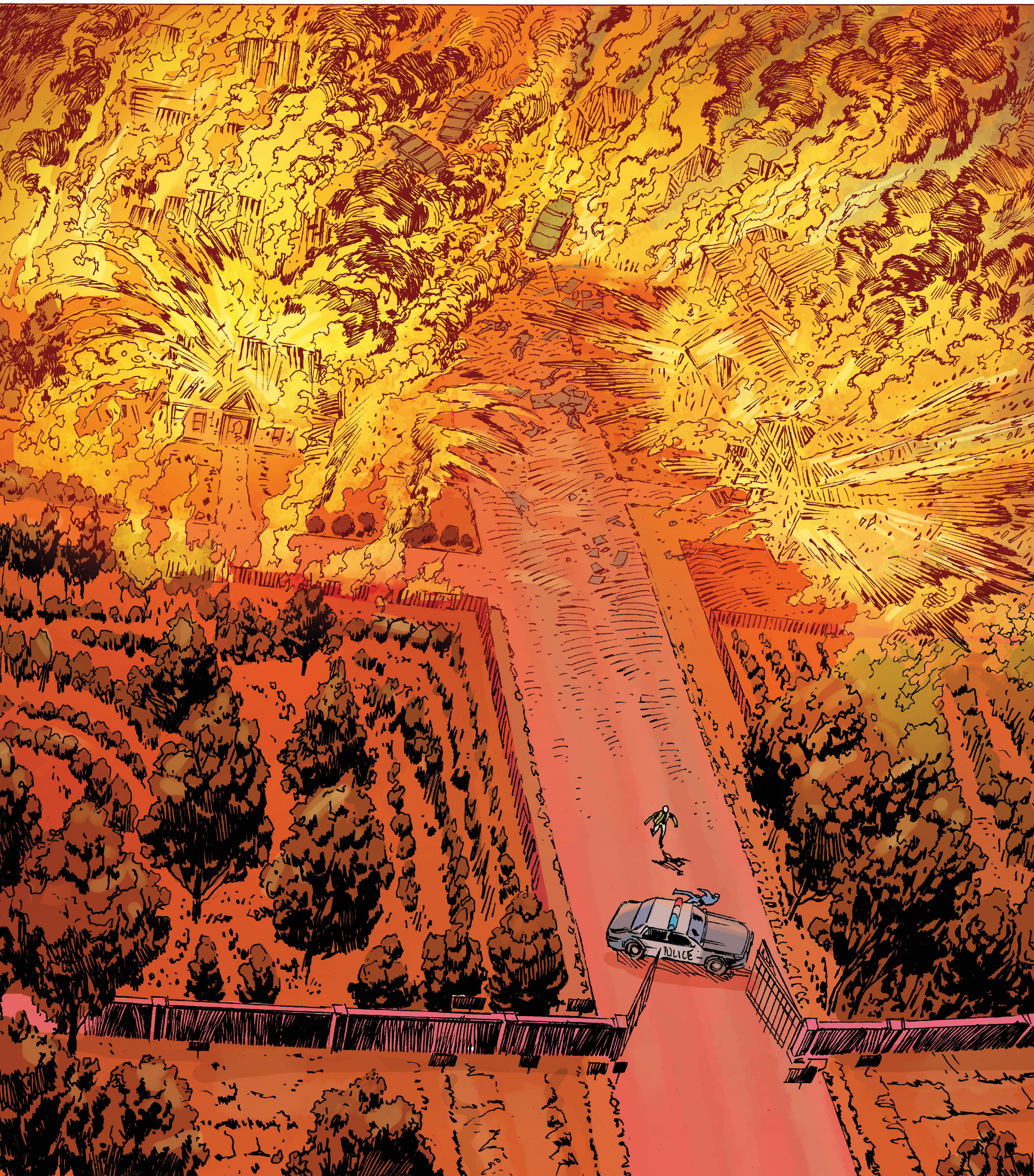
BECAUSE THEY FOUND A FLAMETHROWER LAYING AROUND OUTSIDE.
OH.
FWOOSH
GAAAAAAAHH!
FAINT
AROO?
KA-CHINK

BOOM
KRA-KOW
DANIEL, YOU GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE. THIS PLACE IS ABOUT TO GO SKY HIGH.
YOU'RE NOT DONE WITH ME YET!

I'M OUT OF HERE!
CRASH
VREEEEER
VREEEER

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
NOOOOOO!

NOT MY BOY!
MY SWEET BOY.
MY SWEET, SWEET, SWEET--
CHOMP
JESUS!
BLAM



YOU KNOW THE DRILL, HAYES. GIVE ME YOUR GUN AND BADGE. YOU'RE GOING ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE WHILE WE REVIEW WHAT WENT DOWN AT WILMHURST.
SERIOUSLY, CHIEF?
CONNOR, I'M GOING TO SHOOT STRAIGHT WITH YOU. THERE'S A BURNING CRATER WHERE PEOPLE USED TO LIVE AND DAMN NEAR AN ENTIRE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS DEAD BECAUSE OF YOU.
ALL OF THIS WITHOUT ANY WARRANTS OR ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION? YOU'RE LIKELY LOOKING AT JAIL TIME HERE AT THE VERY LEAST.
I HAD AN EYEWITNESS. THERE WAS PROBABLE CAUSE.
AND WHERE IS THIS EYEWITNESS?
IT SEEMS HE WAS LIKELY INCINERATED IN THE BLAST, SIR.
WELL ADD ONE MORE TO THE LIST OF PEOPLE YOU GOT KILLED LAST NIGHT THEN.
GO HOME AND GET YOUR SHIT IN ORDER, HAYES.
IF I WERE YOU, I WOULD BE PREPARING FOR THE WORST.

=SIGH=
CLICK
BABY I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HOME!
DON'T BE UPSET, BUT MY DAD CAME A FEW DAYS EARLY TO STAY.
BUT THE TIMING COULDN'T BE BETTER, HONESTLY, I'VE GOT THE GREATEST NEWS--
CONNOR, WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK AWFUL.
IT'S BEEN A TERRIBLE DAY, I--
DADDY?!
YOU?!
BABY?
CONNOR?
WAKE UP, BABY.

ELLA, GET AWAY FROM THAT MAN! HE'S DANGEROUS!
HE'S A KILLER!
OH SHE KNOWS, AGENT HAYES.
SURELY YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH THE MORDARE FAMILY AND THE SERIES OF DEATHS THEY STRUNG TOGETHER ACROSS THIS COUNTRY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHY IS SHE HERE?
GIVE HIM THE OTHER EXCITING NEWS, DEAR GIRL.
I'M PREGNANT, CONNOR.
I WANTED TO TELL YOU EARLIER BUT--
A BABY?
REALLY?
NORMALLY WHEN SOMEONE DARES TO STRIKE AGAINST US WE WOULD ERADICATE THEM, AGENT HAYES.
BUT AS YOU CAN SEE THIS IS A COMPLICATED SITUATION. MORE COMPLICATED THAN YOU MAY FIRST THINK.

SO WE'RE GIVING YOU A CHOICE. COME WITH US, RAISE YOUR FAMILY, OR YOU DIE RIGHT NOW AND YOUR CHILD IS RAISED FATHERLESS.
COME WITH YOU KILLERS?
OH DEAR HEART, YOU SAY THAT LIKE YOU AREN'T ONE OF US.
I'M NOT. I'M NOT LIKE YOU.
I WAS DOING MY JOB. I WAS PROTECTING PEOPLE FROM MURDEROUS SCUM.
BY KILLING THEM IN COLD BLOOD?
DON'T YOU SEE, AGENT HAYES? YOU BECAME WHAT YOU FEARED.
YOU MADE YOURSELF A WEAPON AND WEAPONS ONLY EXIST FOR ONE REASON.
AND DO YOU THINK YOU BECAME THIS WAY BY ACCIDENT? YOU THINK THAT YOU SURVIVING AT THAT COUNTY FAIR ALL THOSE YEARS AGO WAS A FLUKE?
YOU THINK ANYONE WHO SURVIVES ONE OF OUR SPREES IS JUST GOOD LUCK?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THIS IS SOME SORT OF MASTER PLAN?
SHE WAS IN ON IT FROM THE BEGINNING?
NO NO. INCREDIBLY SHE HAD NO IDEA. WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU TWO WERE TOGETHER.
I SUSPECT SHE'S JUST ATTRACTED TO MEN LIKE HER DAD. STRONG, PROTECTIVE MURDEROUS TYPES.
AND OUR MASTER PLAN IS A LITTLE THEATRICAL.
WE'RE PLANTING SEEDS, AGENT HAYES, AND YOU JUST HAPPENED TO BLOSSOM INTO A MARVELOUS, BEAUTIFUL, MURDEROUS FLOWER.

MY DAUGHTER IS CARRYING YOUR CHILD AND THAT MAKES YOU MY FAMILY. I TAKE THAT EXTREMELY SERIOUS, SON.
DON'T BE A FOOL. JUST JOIN US. ACCEPT YOUR DESTINY.
COME ON. IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME SINCE WE HAD A GOOD MANIAC COP.
THIS ISN'T REALLY THAT TOUGH OF A CHOICE, IS IT?
BE WITH YOUR FAMILY OR DIE PAINFULLY?
CONNOR? PLEASE? THIS DOESN'T CHANGE ANYTHING ABOUT US.
I STILL LOVE YOU; YOU STILL LOVE ME. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A BABY TOGETHER.
WHERE WOULD WE GO?
WHY, TO SITE B, OF COURSE.
WILMHURST TWO.
COUGH COUGH
WHERE AM I?

I CAN'T CATCH A BREAK, CAN I?
O NOT
NTER
KEEP OUT
THE END.

Where Monsters Lie #1 Cover B by *JAMES STOKOE*

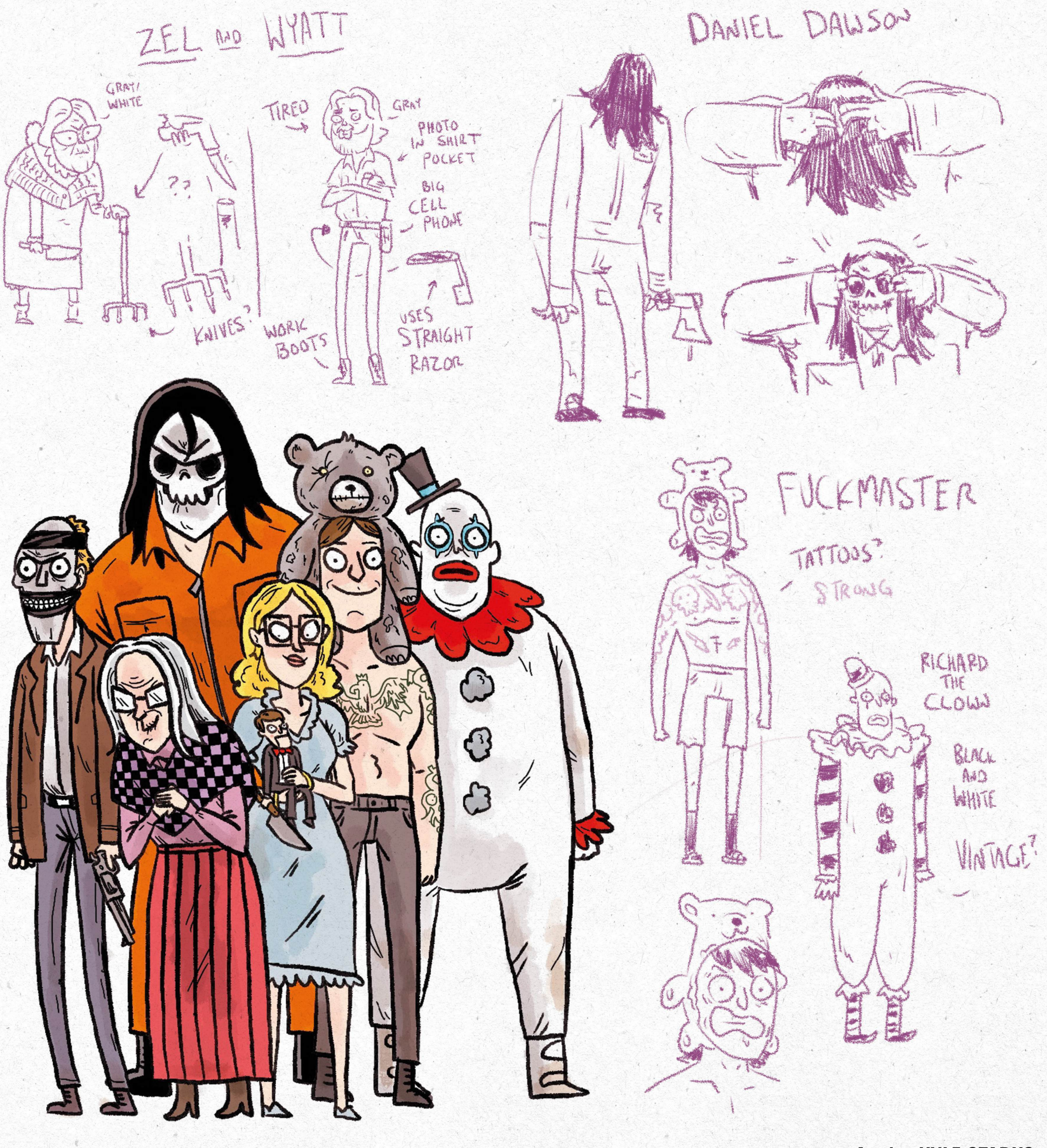
Where Monsters Lie #2 Cover B by *FÁBIO MOON*

Where Monsters Lie #3 Cover B by *TYLER CROOK*

Where Monsters Lie #4 Cover B by *DAVID RUBÍN*

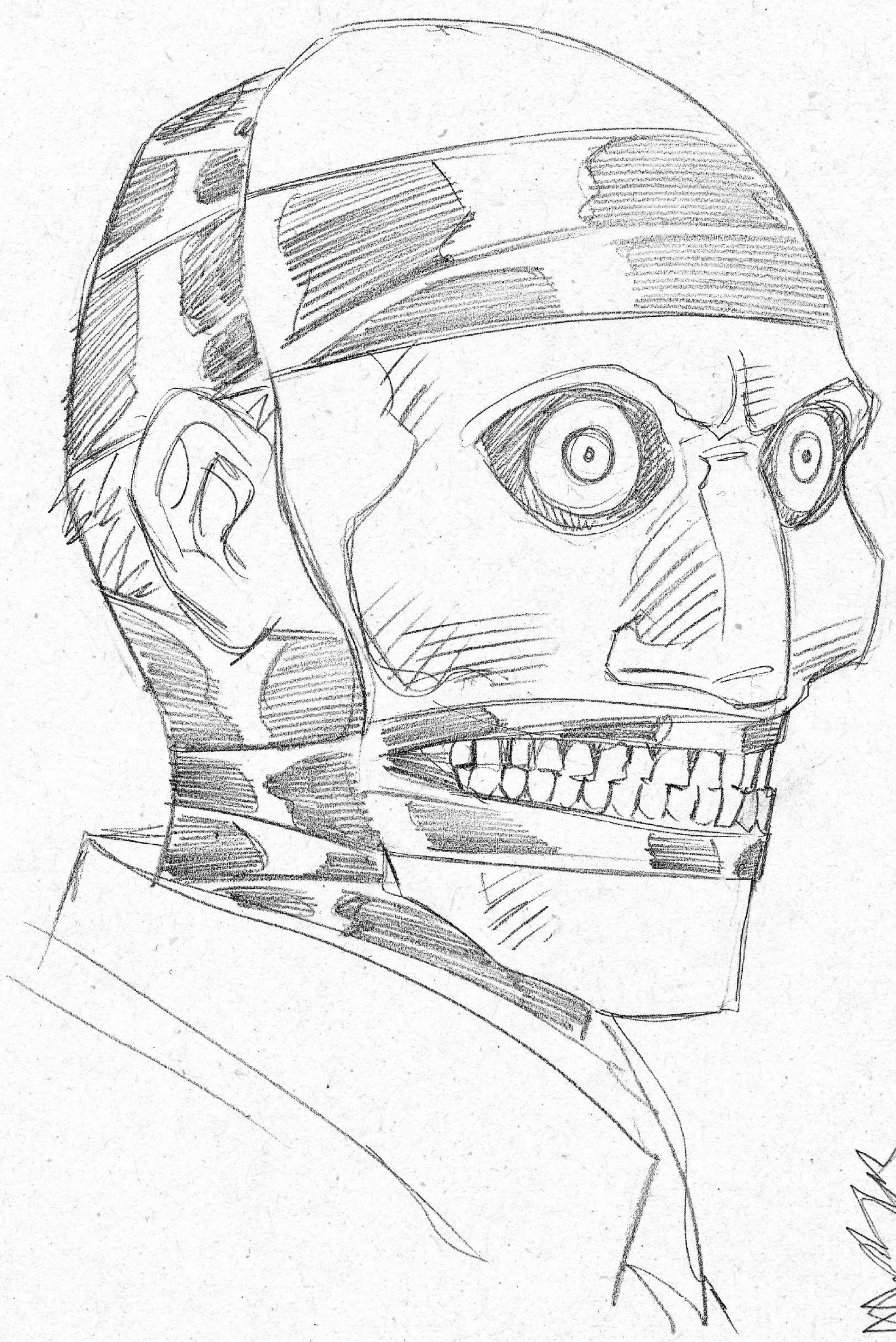
WHERE MONSTERS LIE™

What follows are Piotr Kowalski's and Kyle Starks's character designs and an unused cover for the second issue.



Art by *KYLE STARKS*

Art by ***PIOTR KOWALSKI*** (this page and following)



FUCKMASTER

ZEL

PEARL

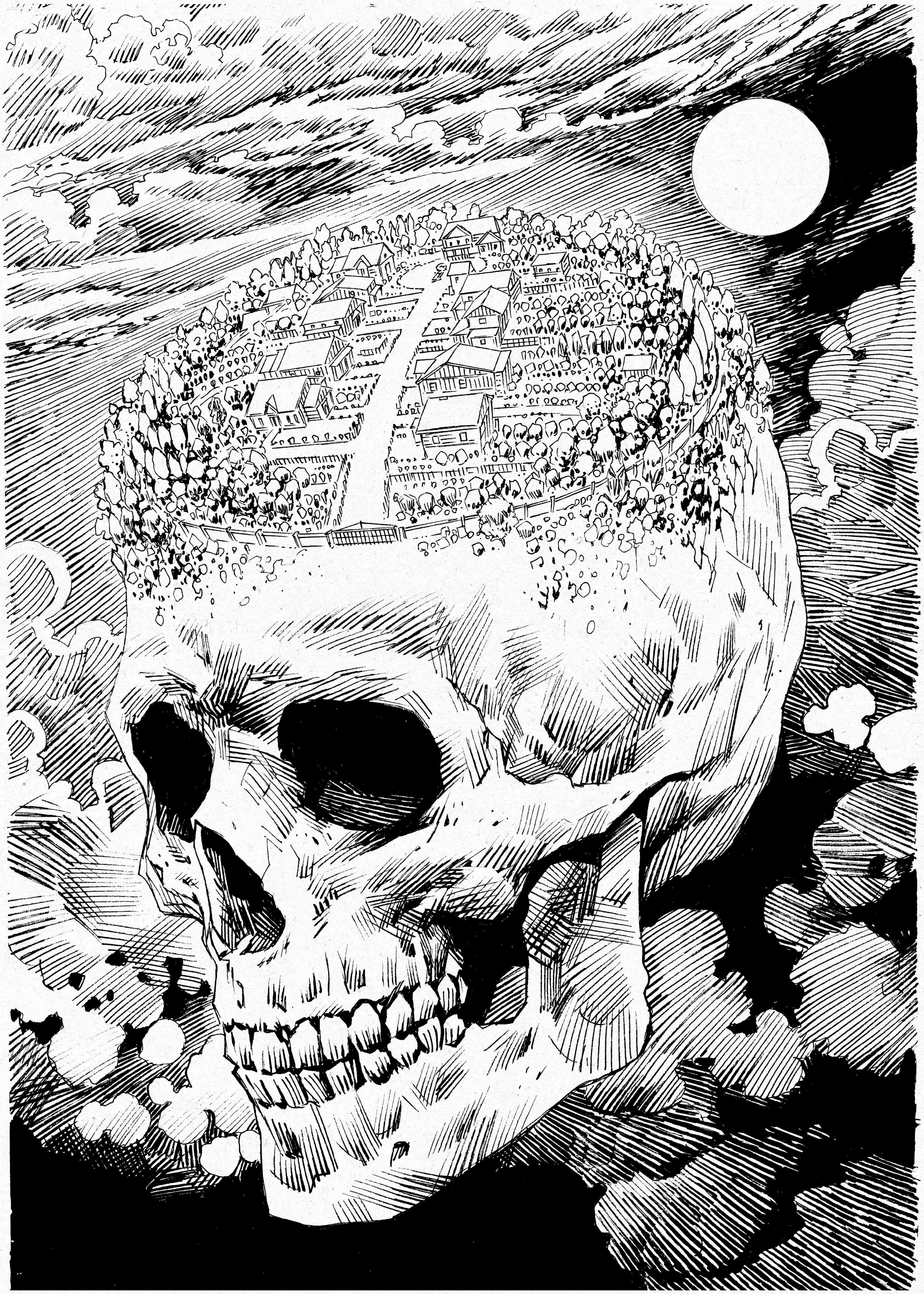
GRANDPA

NEPHEW

RICHARD

SJ

DANIEL



COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / HORROR

A BRAND-NEW META-HORROR STORY THAT'S *CABIN IN THE WOODS* MEETS *TUCKER AND DALE VS. EVIL*.

Haven't you always wondered what slasher monsters—the masked home invasion family, the mindless unkillable monster, the serial killer trapped in a doll—what they do for those couple of years in-between their murder sprees? They're at Wilmhurst—a gated community in the middle of nowhere where they relax—or try to—until they get the call to go out and kill again.

Connor Hayes survived his first slasher in summer camp. A handful of years later he barely escaped a psychopath who built torture puzzles for his victims. Since then he's been training and planning for running into these creatures again. He's a respected special agent. And now he knows where the monsters lie and he's planning for war.

Collects *Where Monsters Lie* #1–#4 with sketchbook extras by Piotr Kowalski and pinups by James Stokoe, Fábio Moon, Tyler Crook, and David Rubín.

"The kind of comic you'll be fully invested in by the end, wishing to learn more about its colorful characters. A unique approach to horror and killers, it's funny, weird, and wholly original."

—AIPT

"By taking a dark, dark subject like serial killers and marrying it with the mundanities of everyday life, Where Monsters Lie is poised to be your next favorite comic!"

—COMIC WATCH

"Kowalski has a wonderfully unique and visually thrilling art style that drew me in and kept me invested in the world and these characters."

—SUPER POWERED FANCAST

DARK HORSE BOOKS

SON OF ULTRON